

REMARKS

Claims 1-28 are currently pending. The Examiner has raised 112 objections to Claims 1, 5, 9 and 10. By this amendment, Applicants submit amendments to Claims 1, 5, 9, and 10 to address the antecedent basis concerns. The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-3, 5-6 and 8-11, 13-17, 25, and 28 as unpatentable over USP 5,479,601 to Malamud in view of Cain; Claims 4, 7, 12, and 18-24 unpatentable over USP 5,479,601 to Malamud in view of Cain and Andrew; Claims 26 and 27 as unpatentable over USP 5,694,561 to Malamud in view of Cain and Selby.

Applicants first note that the Examiner has made an error in rejecting the claims. The USP number 5,479,601 is the patent to Matheny which was previously cited against the claims, and which Applicants believe has been successfully overcome. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the final status of the present Office Action due to the error. In the interests of furthering the prosecution of the application, however, Applicants have submitted this RCE and Amendment and Applicants will address the rejections as if based on USP 5,694,561 of Malamud. Applicants do maintain that a "final" status is not appropriate and respectfully request that, upon withdrawal of the final status, refunding of the RCE filing fee to Deposit Account 50-0629.

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For the reasons set forth below, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims as amended are patentable over the cited art. The Malamud patent is directed to a method whereby a user of a windowing system can select multiple pre-existing windows and assign the multiple windows to a logical "project group" (shown in project group window 201 of Fig. 2). By doing so, the user can assign some common characteristics to all of the windows of the group (e.g., color coding as illustrated by the cross-hatched top bar on windows 203, 207 and 208 in Fig. 2) or perform collective "open" and "close" operations on the group. The Malamud patent does not, however, teach or suggest the system and method for developing a window and for defining controls or behaviors for the window which is being developed. The Examiner cites reference numerals 203, 205, 207 and 208 against the cited "plurality of control enhancers(sic)". However, the Malamud reference numerals 203, 205, 207 and 208 refer to windows and not to control enhancers or control enhancer objects as interfaces to controls for windows, as is expressly claimed by the present invention. Further, the Examiner cites the list of grouped windows in a project group (from Col. 10, lines 9-24) as a list of control enhancers (sic), whereas the present invention teaches and claims a list of control enhancer objects for a window object. The Examiner cites the teachings from Col. 10, lines 9-24 not only for the list of control enhancers (sic) but also for the specific behaviors and for the control enhancer objects

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determining which control enhancer object should handle a received event. Applicants respectfully assert that the cited teachings from Malamud's Col. 10 provide no such teaching or suggestion. Malamud simply details a list or alternative display of grouped windows from a user-defined project group of windows. Malamud does not teach or suggest any controls, control enhancer objects, or lists or use thereof. With respect to the specific behaviors, the Examiner additionally cites Col. 9, lines 54-58 wherein Malamud discusses a "behavior of the project group" such as the cross-hatched display. Clearly a group "behavior" is not the same as or suggestive of specific behaviors for "one specific control for [one] window object" as is claimed by the present invention.

Applicants respectfully assert that the Malamud patent teachings of a user grouping pre-existing windows for group manipulation is not the same as nor suggestive of the present invention which provides a system and method for customizing window objects with specific controls and behaviors using control enhancer objects and for providing the list of control enhancer objects from which an event handling control enhancer object can be selected.

The Examiner acknowledges that the Malamud patent is silent with respect to a plurality of window controls and cites the Cain patent. The Cain patent is directed to a graphical tool which can be used to create a GUI with methods attached to the GUI

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objects. The Cain "methods" are not the same as nor suggestive of control enhancer objects, which each provide an interface to a specific control for a window object customized with specific behaviors, as is taught and claimed by the present invention.

Applicants respectfully assert that one skilled in the art would not be motivated to combine Malamud and Cain, since Malamud teaches a user environment for grouping windows while Cain teaches a graphical tool for a developer. Further, even if one were to combine Malamud with Cain, one would not arrive at the invention as claimed. The combination of references would result in a Malamud system with grouped windows wherein the graphical display of the group could be created with the Cain tool. Clearly, the combination would not obviate the invention as claimed.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the final status of the present office action, reconsideration of the cited references, withdrawal of the rejections, and issuance of the claims as amended.

Respectfully submitted,
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MARKED-UP CLAIMS WITH AMENDMENTS SHOWN

1. A system for providing enhanced functionality for handling each event of at least one event received by a window object having a plurality of window controls comprising:

a plurality of control enhancer objects, each providing an interface to a one specific control for said window object and being customized with specific behaviors from a plurality of base classes and subclasses; and

a list of said control enhancer objects for said window object, whereby said window object passes an event to all of said control [enhancers] enhancer objects on said list and wherein said control [enhancers] enhancer objects determine which of said plurality of control enhancer objects should handle the received event.

5. The system of Claim 1 wherein a first one of said window controls is related to at least one second of said window controls, said control enhancer object for said first window control further comprising at least one pointer to the control enhancer object for said second window control; at least one means for determining if an action at said [first] control enhancer object for said first window control affects said

[second] control enhancer object for said second window control; and means for communicating with said [second] control enhancer object for said second window control.

9. A system for providing enhanced functionality for handling each event of at least one event received by a window object having a plurality of window controls comprising:

a plurality of base classes and subclasses representing discrete behaviors;

a plurality of control enhancer objects, each providing an interface to a one specific control for said window object, each of said control enhancer objects being customized with at least one of a plurality of specific behaviors using said plurality of base classes and subclasses comprising at least one data storage handler, at least one data initializer; and at least one data finalizer; and

a list of said control enhancer objects for said window object, whereby said window object passes an event to all of said control [enhancers] enhancer objects on said list and wherein said control [enhancers] enhancer objects determine which of said plurality of control enhancer objects should handle the received event.

10. The system of Claim 9 wherein a first one of said window controls is related to at least one second of said window

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controls, said control enhancer object for said first window control further comprising at least one pointer to the control enhancer object for said second window control; at least one means for determining if an action at said [first] control enhancer object for said first window control affects said [second] control enhancer object for said second window control; and means for communicating with said [second] control enhancer object for said second window control.